

in Latin America as well as Africa. But right here in our own hemisphere, one need look no further than the 1994 bombing of the Jewish community center in Argentina, Buenos Aires, to demonstrate Iran's willingness and ability to attack targets half a world away.

In July, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called for even stricter sanctions on Iran to try to change the behavior of the regime. I couldn't agree more, but we need them now. Let's act now.

#### TEACHING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ABOUT THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the United States Constitution. Earlier today, the House unanimously passed my bill, House Resolution 686, the Teach the Constitution Week resolution. Congressman RON PAUL and I combined our efforts on this important legislation because society is losing its knowledge of our Nation's most fundamental principles. The Constitution lays out the tenets of our Republic, and House Resolution 686 specifically proposes that seniors in high school across the Nation be taught about the Constitution at the start of their senior year in high school for 1 week.

Mr. Speaker, the Constitution is the highest law of the land. If we're not teaching our children about a document so fundamental to our Nation's past, present and future, then what are we teaching them? Too many Americans have no real understanding of the principles of this historic document. More teenagers can name the judges of American Idol and more teenagers can name the Three Stooges than can name the three branches of our government. This is a true disservice to our Nation and its citizens, and this is the reason why we should promote a better understanding of the Constitution on the part of our Nation's youth.

The resolution also encourages seniors to petition the government on an issue of personal importance to them to demonstrate their understanding of their rights and responsibilities as citizens of the United States. They can write letters, organize a trip to Washington, D.C., to see Congress in action, or call their Representatives to voice their opinions about bills and laws in which they have an interest.

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to say that earlier this afternoon, the House of Representatives passed House Resolution 686, just 3 days before we celebrate Constitution Day, which marks the 222nd anniversary of the original signing of the U.S. Constitution by members of the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787.

I want to thank the 222 Representatives who signed on as cosponsors of this bipartisan bill. I hope that it will

help to reinforce the great importance of the U.S. Constitution to our Nation.

#### THE 19TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS' VIEWS ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, like many Members in the House, I spent a good part of August visiting with people in the 19th Congressional District that sent me here. I had several coffees all across my district. One of the things that they spoke loud and clear of is that they are very concerned about the direction of their country. And as I listened to the President's speech and I listened to some of his advisers, they think these people are not Main Street America, that they are somehow disillusioned. Well, they are disillusioned. They are disillusioned with our government. They see their government bailing out banks. They see their government bailing out car companies. They see their government taking over every aspect of their lives and now wants to take over our health care. I want to read you some of the comments from the people of the 19th Congressional District.

Janie from Lubbock, Texas: "I am self-employed and pay my taxes. I firmly believe we currently have way too much government in our business and daily lives."

Jennifer from Wolfforth, Texas: "Keep the government out of our health care. Remind them of our broken systems, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. We don't need another one."

Bobby from Lubbock: "I do not want the government to run my health care. America does not need any more debt."

Rick from Lubbock asked this question: "Why can't government cut back on its spending like the rest of us have to?"

Nelma from Lubbock: "My husband and I were born into very poor families. We were able to realize the American Dream. I want this opportunity for the upcoming generations."

Michael from Lubbock: "Reform is definitely necessary, but not the kind that has been proposed."

James from Lubbock: "Read, understand and apply the Constitution." A novel idea, James.

Mandy from Lubbock: "We want to keep our great insurance that we pay premiums for. We don't want to have our tax dollars fund another fiasco and become another Canada."

Holly from Wolfforth: "Stop the spending. When I was deeply in debt, I stopped buying, worked hard and paid for things slowly but surely. I am out of debt now. I did not ask anyone to print money for me or pay for me."

John from Lubbock: "Promise us that you will sign yourself, your family on the same plan that you force us into."

Grace from Lubbock: "I hope you have listened to the many people here in Lubbock who do not have health insurance and who cannot afford it."

James from Lubbock: "The U.S. Congress and the executive branch of the Federal Government, in particular, should limit their reach to what is allowed by our Founding Fathers' documents."

Robert from Lubbock: "We must stop this crazy deficit spending and borrowing."

Marilyn from Lubbock: "I hope that you will find a way to use the programs already available to cover all Americans."

Rosalie from Lubbock: "Government is spending too much money. Back off."

Larry from Lubbock: "In the bill there is language limiting the growth of physician-owned hospitals. These hospitals are able to supply health care services more efficiently than other community-based larger hospitals. I am against this bill."

Sandra from Lubbock: "We need to slow things down and people need to read all of the bill before doing any voting."

Kayla from Lubbock, who attended with her grandmother: "I am 9 years old, and I am wondering why the heck you're spending my future. Thank you for listening."

Ron from Lubbock: "When my kids were in college, my friends called me the ATM. I don't know the President. I don't want to be his ATM."

George from Lubbock: "As Big Government continues to expand, there is a commensurate loss of individual freedom, accompanied by excessive spending and an amassing of a ridiculous deficit."

Michelle from Lubbock: "I am a RN in a local emergency room. I am personally against the health care bill. How do we fix overcrowding of ERs? ER nurses are working twice as hard and seeing twice as many patients compared to the past."

Jack from Lubbock, "Say 'no' to the government health care and protect our borders."

Joel from Lubbock: "Please say 'no' to all excessive spending. Some of it does not fit with our Constitution."

Susan from Lubbock: "I have been an RN for 34 years. I am tired of seeing patients turned away due to lack of insurance. This takes such a toll on families and health care providers."

Mary from Lubbock: "Please do all that you can to keep health care in our hands, not the government."

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, these are not people that are off on some tangent. These are people that are concerned about their country. They are concerned that the government is taking over every aspect of their lives. They're concerned that we are mortgaging the future of their children and their grandchildren. They're concerned that their personal liberties and freedoms are at risk.